10. LNG Ships

As per RFP document, ships for transporting LNG should be Indian Flag Ships. Bidders have expressed difficulty to the stipulation of the above provision. Based on clearance from Ministry of Shipping, the document has been amended stating that the LNG tankers, which are not Indian Flag Vessels, will be required to switch over to Indian Flag Vessles after the tonnage tax is introduced in India.

Reinstating of suspended officials

†1643. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain suspended officials have been reinstated during the last few months prior to completion of enquiry into the cases pertaining to corruption;

(b) if so, the names of officials, and the investigating agencies looking into cases against them; and

(c) the reasons for reinstating them in services prior to the completion of enquires?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) Suspension is not a penalty and is resorted to for preventing the concerned official(s) from influencing outcome of an inquiry by influencing witnesses/tampering with documents. On a review, as and when the Disciplinary Authority is satisfied that the apprehension of prejudicing evidence/witnesses no longer exists, the suspension may be revoked but the inquiry/investigation/trial continues as before.

The Disciplinary Authority of the respective Administrative Ministry/ Department is competent to decide the issue of reinstatement of an officer placed under suspension. The figures relating to the numbers of suspended officers reinstated in Government service are not centrally maintained.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.